

Town of Mansfield Transportation Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting – August 20, 2012

Present: Frantz (chair), Ryan, Marcellino, Aho (WRTD), Painter (staff), Hultgren (staff), Blanc (staff), Feyers (guest)

The meeting was called to order by chair Frantz at 7:30 PM.

The minutes of the September 15, 2011 meeting were approved on a motion by Ryan/Marcellino.

The WRTD bus facility proposed for the North Frontage Road was discussed. Aho said that will hopefully be constructed and open by next year.

Hultgren noted that the Storrs to Willimantic bus ridership was again up significantly in the last year and continues to show increased ridership in the first month of fiscal year 12-13. He also said that the bus stop on Rte 275 by the Community Center should be completed in the next few days and be open. Members inquired about erecting a shelter at this stop location – staff will look into grants for this.

Staff updated committee members on the status of the following transportation-related projects: Stone Mill Road bridge (to be completed this fall); Laurel Lane bridge (construction just starting); Birch Road bikeway (complete); Flaherty Road/Liberty Bank plaza walkway (to be redesigned per DOT review comments – will be bid next spring); Route 275 pedestrian/bike safety (referred to DOT and waiting for their report); Signage on Rtes 44 and 32 for UConn bound traffic from the west (still waiting for DOT response to Town's request); UConn's signage on Rte 195 maintenance and removal request (DOT said they will respond to a specific list of sign requests); North Eagleville Sidewalk (easements being procured now, funding agreement with UConn being drafted); South Eagleville Road walkway (on hold until workload in engineering dept eases a little).

The update on the volunteer driver program for seniors was discussed. A van for this program has been ordered, but is not expected until later this year.

Committee members were then updated on the Storrs Center transportation-related projects: Parking garage now open, but the software for the operation of the gates will be installed next week; Car sharing and car charging stations to be ready later in September (one car for sharing will be electric); Village Street (Wilbur Cross Way) has been bid and should be awarded in September; Final plans and specs for the intermodal center are under review now and the project should be bid in September; Parking Cooperative Agreement has been approved and is being signed by the owners of the parking lots in Storrs Center – special constables for enforcing parking should be appointed early in September.

Hultgren circulated an outline of tasks being considered for the operation of the Intermodal Center and said that staff would be working on this up until the center opens in August of 2013.

Painter outlined the focus of the Town's recent HUD sustainable communities grant and how it will assist the Town in planning for convenient and safe walking and biking facilities. Considerable public input will be sought as the grant's work is undertaken, and staff will keep the TAC informed.

The edited Town-wide priority walkway/bikeway listing that was edited by the TAC's subcommittee after the last meeting was circulated and discussed. Members were asked to reflect on this and bring further edits to the next meeting.

The 6/22/12 memo from the Human Services Advisory Committee on Transportation Planning in Mansfield was discussed. The committee decided to review the Mansfield 2020 visioning report chapter on Transportation at the next meeting and invite the HSAC members to this meeting as well.

The next meeting agenda was discussed and was set to include:

- Review of the Mansfield 2020 report relating to transportation
- Transportation Planning discussion with the HSAC advisory committee
- Editing of the walkway priority listing
- Discussion of the Intermodal Center operations plan.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:10 PM on a motion by Ryan/Marcellino.

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren
Director of Public Works